

Moran: Kansas Farmers Would be Hurt by New Grain Shipping Rules

Works with Groups to Find Solution

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TOPEKA - Congressman Jerry Moran this week met with the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) to discuss regulations that affect farmers hauling grain to local elevators. KCC recently proposed changes to its interpretation of a regulation regarding commercial motor vehicles and the movement of goods within and across state lines.

"A farmer is a farmer, not a trucker," Moran said. "It is unrealistic to expect our producers to maintain the same standards as that of someone whose sole job responsibility is the transportation of goods throughout Kansas and America."

Federal law regulates trade between states, which is known as *interstate* commerce. States,

on the other hand, have jurisdiction over trade within their borders, which is refereed to as *intrastate*

commerce. Historically, KCC has allowed most deliveries of grain from a Kansas farm to a market located within Kansas to be considered intrastate commerce. Now, however, KCC is proposing to consider the transportation of grain from a Kansas farmer to a local elevator as interstate commerce since the grain may ultimately be sold to an out-of-state buyer.

"After delivery to a local elevator, a farmer usually has no control over what happens to the grain next," Moran said. "It would be nearly impossible for a farmer to determine the ultimate destination of the grain after it is sold at the local elevator."

Moran is working with KCC and state legislators to develop a rule that is compliant with federal law and at the same time limits the impact on the agriculture industry in Kansas. Moran is a member of the House Agriculture Committee and the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

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